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## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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### Airlines Commit to Alaska's International Airports

**(FAIRBANKS, Alaska)** – In a strong show of support for the Alaska International Airports System (AIAS), comprised of the Fairbanks and Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airports, as of today a majority of AIAS customer airlines, consisting of regional, domestic, international, passenger, and cargo operators have signed and agree to a new operating agreement and passenger terminal lease through June 30, 2013.

In becoming signatory to the agreement, a majority of airlines using AIAS facilities have made long term commitments in guaranteeing to fund airport operating and capital costs. Evert's Air of Fairbanks signed on first, followed by Evergreen and Korean Air Cargo. New signatory air carriers include Atlas Air Inc., Singapore Airlines Cargo PTE Ltd., and China Cargo Airlines, Ltd.

This new agreement successfully represents a collaborative process to address commercial interests and the public interest of Alaskans and replaces an agreement which had been in holdover for the past 3 years. It establishes rates, fees, roles and responsibilities for the State of Alaska and airline partners; use of terminal and airfield space and outlines funding for future capital improvement projects.

“This is great news for our international airports in the current national and global economic climate” stated Christine Klein, Deputy Commissioner of Aviation, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF). “We took a business model approach and in doing so, we were able to reduce landing fees over the past year, ensuring we remain competitive.”

The aviation industry contributes 47,000 jobs and \$3.5 billion dollars annually to Alaska's economy.

More information about DOT&PF airports, including rural aviation, is available online at: <http://www.dot.state.ak.us/airport-portal.shtml> .

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